

STATEWIDE RFA TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CALLS
MEETING MINUTES

May 2, 2018

Time: 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

Location: Conference Call

Call-In: 877-873-8017 Code: 5396369

County TA Questions	CDSS Response	Action Item
1) How are counties handling marijuana use by applicants?	A county cannot prohibit an individual from being a caregiver solely if they use marijuana. However, the county has the right to assess, as they would any other substance like alcohol, whether marijuana use impacts the individual's ability and capacity to care for and parent children and youth.	None.
2) What is required when an approved Resource Parent changes their name legally? Is a new RFA application required?	No, a new application is not required, counties shall obtain and document the proof of new name. However, an approval update may be required pursuant to Written Directives, Version 5, Sections 9-03, 9-04 or 9-05. The approval certificate (RFA-05A or equivalent) shall be changed to reflect the new name.	None.
3) Does the county's AB 110, Short-Term, Interim Funding backlog plan require approval before the county will obtain the additional 30 days of funding as described in All County Letter (ACL) 18-33?	No, upon the submission of the Backlog Plan by a county, CDSS will acknowledge receipt of the plan. However, the Department is reserving the right to contact the county for clarification of the Backlog Plan if necessary. The Backlog Plans are county-wide, and individual backlog plans should not be submitted by RFA workers.	None.
4) Has the process to transfer (also known as portability) an approval between counties been finalized yet?	The County Welfare Directors Association (CWDA) subcommittee developed a preliminary protocol on file transfer and released it for county feedback in March. The feedback received will be reviewed at the next committee meeting scheduled for May 9, 2018. Although formal guidance has not yet been issued, county to county transfers of approved Resource Families is authorized by Health and Safety Code Section 1517.5(b) and counties may refer to it for the provisions to transfer an approved Resource Family to another county. An All County Letter (ACL) further describing portability to and from a foster family agency (FFA) is under development.	None.
5) Can a county child welfare agency "transfer" a rapback to their county probation agency and vice versa?	The response is contingent upon how RFA is organized/conducted within the county. In some counties, child welfare and probation agencies work together, other counties have their own RFA programs which are separate and are considered separate entities. If there is only one Originating Agency Identifier Code (also known as ORI) issued by the Department of	None.

	Justice to the county and one custodian of record for the county, shared by both child welfare and probation agencies, then there is no need to transfer the rapback. However, if child welfare and probation departments <u>do not share</u> the same ORI, then a transfer of the rapback (as well as the clearance or exemption, if applicable) would be necessary. Please refer to the Background Assessment Guide (BAG), Section 122.	
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Updates:

- Family Evaluation regional trainings have been scheduled through June. Training dates and registration information can be found on the [California RFA](#) webpage. The curriculum is skills-based and provides interview techniques for both relatives and non-relative applicants, and is geared for the RFA workers who are conducting the family evaluation interviews and responsible for writing the Written Report. RFA supervisors are encouraged to attend, as there is a separate training component for supervisors only. Counties may contact the RFA Mailbox, RFA@dss.ca.gov, if they would like to receive the training power point.
- An updated [RFA-05](#) was posted May 4, 2018, and all sections have been formatted to accept text. The RFA-05 is not mandatory and counties may use a substitute form that contains equivalent information.
- The annual RFA county reviews are starting and will be going through to the end of the year. The annual reviews have been structured to be collaborative and technical assistance environment between county RFA and CDSS review team staff.

Next Meeting: June 6, 2018, 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm